

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 33 on page 3 with the following paragraph:

According to another aspect of the preferred embodiment of the present invention, the intermediate layer servers preferably communicate with each other and with the front end layer via the Internet Protocol Suite (TCP/IP) ~~TCP/IP~~ communication protocol, which accommodates the front end layer and intermediate layer being physically remote from each other and the various intermediate layer servers being physically remote from each other.